

Middletown Public Library Board of Trustees

Minutes of Meeting – June 17, 2014

Middletown Public Library

700 West Main Road

Middletown, Rhode Island

Members Present: Steve Arendt, Chair; Lucie-Anne Dionne-Thomas; Sally Gauch; Ellrony Williams; Susan Hester

Others Present: Theresa Coish, Library Director; Sue Connor; Candise Pruitt

Members Absent: Ernest Gibbons

Others Absent: Barbara Von Villas, Town Council liaison to the library.

--Meeting called to order at 6:10 P.M. by Steve Arendt, Chair.

Disposition of Minutes:

--Minutes of May 20, 2014 meeting reviewed. Motion to accept: Hester.

Second: Williams. Unanimously carried.

Executive session began at 6:15 P.M.

Re-enter regular session at 8:06 p.m.

Motion to seal minutes of the Executive Session: Gauch. Second Hester. Unanimously approved.

Correspondence received: \$20 donation to the library in honor of passing of Richard Dunlap from Gladys and Manuel Silveira.

Recognition by the Town Council of Paul LaMond was held on Monday, June 16, 2014. Paul LaMond's wife, Catherine, and daughters Jennifer and Susan were in attendance. Barbara Von Villas, Town Council liaison to the library, and the Library Director, and Paul's daughter Jennifer all gave sensitive presentations at the Town Council meeting. Barbara Von Villas read a letter drafted by current Library Chair Arendt at Town Council meeting on Monday, June 16.

Director's progress and financial reports on the library: Theresa Coish orally reviewed information provided in her Director's Report. Additional item: Maker Camp at Middletown Library will be conducted week of July 21, 2014, between 1:30 to 4:30. It will occur at the Newport and Portsmouth Public Libraries on other dates. The age of participants is 8 to 12. Surplus is expected to be about \$10,000.00. What could change that amount are the utilities. The library did go over budget obtained from town sources as to gas (heat) and may go

over budget with electricity but overall good and true to projections. RI is first state to launch the Money Start program. Sen. Jack Reed conducted a presentation in this regard on Monday, June 16th; the library director attended. The program comes with no funding but is meant to inform citizens and includes the RI Student Loan Authority helping to understand student loan process, Pell grants, and what a student's financial obligation will be. The library director would like the library to become involved in the effort.

Motion to accept Director's Report: Dionne-Thomas. Second: Gauch. Unanimously carried.

Committee reports:

--Budget Committee: Town Council passed budget for the library as presented.

--Contract Negotiations: No report.

--Director Evaluation: Completed and presented to Theresa and signed this date by Theresa and Steve Arendt. Theresa will bring to Town Hall for Town Administrator Shawn Brown's signature. Other matter affecting library director's will be discussed at next month's meeting.

--Friends: Embarking on a new newsletter. Friends are working on

something to be added to giving tree (bird) for Paul LaMond. A stone is to be added to giving tree that will be purchased in honor of Blanche Sefton, mother of Margaret Bellucci, a former trustee.

--Policy Review: Revision of programming policy to insure that when presenters are earning money for a program, library should not incur costs associated with the presentation such as duplication of documents, staff, supplies and equipment. Library director noted the importance of staff and attendees evaluating programs as they occur so as to have a good guide for the future. Motion made to amend programming policy to include underlined words, reflecting the aforementioned concerns: Gauch. Second: Hester. Unanimously carried.

Unfinished Business: Friends of the Library: letter of agreement for use of building space for Friends Bookstore. Still waiting for town solicitor response.

New Business: Incident occurred on June 16, 2014 that involved a patron looking at pornography on a public computer and masturbating. The patron left quickly when staff spoke to him. The library director presented this incident to the board since if this person were to have his privileges restricted, there may be a need to hold a hearing to give him a chance to respond to the allegation. Should there be the need for such a hearing, the library board may need to be involved.

Public presentation to or discussion with the Board: None

Announcements:

--The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will take place on Tuesday, July 15, 2014 at 6:00 P.M., at the Library.

**--Motion to adjourn: Hester. Second: Dionne-Thomas.
Unanimously carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Lucie-Anne Dionne-Thomas

Secretary